

DRAFT
THE ENVIRONMENTAL WATER ACCOUNT DEVELOPMENT TEAM PROCESS
September 8, 1999

This document presents options or suggestions for consideration by the Environmental Water Account Development Team (EWADT) on various aspects of the EWADT process.

Environmental Water Account Development Team Membership and Attendance at Meetings

The intent is to have invited members of the EWADT attend all meetings. Each member can name one alternate who can attend meetings in the member's place and participate in the decision-making process.

Meetings will be open to the public, but the public cannot participate in the meetings until the agenda item for public comment.

Purpose of the Environmental Water Account Development Team

Option 1

The purpose of the EWADT will be to develop an Environmental Water Account (EWA) in sufficient detail that the EWA can be implemented for Water Year 1999-2000 and can function at least throughout Stage 1 of the CalFed Program, if not beyond. EWADT can consider issues broader than the EWA if resolution of those issues is necessary for implementing the EWA.

Option 2

The purpose of the EWADT will be to develop recommendations for creating an Environmental Water Account for Stage 1 of the CalFed Program and to present these recommendations to CalFed. EWADT can consider issues broader than the EWA if these issues are relevant to the Environmental Water Account.

Option 2

The purpose of the EWADT will be to develop options for creating an Environmental Water Account for Stage 1 of the CalFed Program and to present these options to CalFed. EWADT can consider issues broader than the EWA if these issues are relevant to the Environmental Water Account.

Option 3

The purpose of the EWADT will be to discuss options for developing an Environmental Water Account and to present the results of these discussions to CalFed. EWADT can consider issues broader than the EWA if these issues are relevant to the Environmental Water Account.

What Does an Environmental Water Account Consist of?

Physical Assets, that could include the following:

- Storage capacity in groundwater basins
- Storage capacity in surface reservoirs
- Capacity in pumping and conveyance facilities

Funds, that could be used to pay for the following:

- Physical assets
- Water purchases, including options to purchase
- Indirect purchases, such as payment for increased efficiency or wastewater reuse
- Other measures for environmental improvement.

Operating Requirements, including the following:

- Baseline prescriptive requirements on which the account will operate.
- Flexible, real time requirements that could be relaxed or applied based on real time environmental conditions

Water Supply Facilities: Along with environmental protection, water supply will be an important consideration in developing an Environmental Water Account.

Therefore, the process of developing an Environmental Water Account might also involve measures or facilities to increase water supply for agricultural and urban use.

The Plan for Developing the Environmental Water Account

The EWADT will adopt and, as necessary over time, modify a plan for developing an Environmental Water Account. This plan will consist of the tasks involved in setting up the account, the organization for accomplishing those tasks, and a schedule.

The EWADT Decision-Making Process

Option 1

The intent is to make decisions by unanimous consent. If this is not possible, decisions will be made when a significant number of members of the EWADT conclude that, considering the technical, financial, legal, and political realities, the action they support has a high probability of being implemented. Those opposing the action would have the option of attempting to show that the action did not have a high probability of being implemented. The position of those opposing the action would be included as a minority position.

Option 2

The intent is to make decisions by unanimous consent. If this is not possible, decisions will be made by a super majority of xx% of the members of the EWADT. The position of those opposing the action would be included as a minority position.

Option 3

The intent is to make decisions by unanimous consent. If this is not possible, decisions will be made by a majority of the members of the EWADT. The position of those opposing the action would be included as a minority position.

Conditional Agreement

All agreements or decisions made by the EWADT will be conditioned on ultimate agreement on all relevant issues. For example, the EWADT could reach tentative agreement on the account's assets and financing without necessarily agreeing, until later, on the broader issue of assurances of environmental or water supply benefits. If agreement could not be reached on assurances, then members would not be bound to their previous agreement on assets and financing.

Conduct of Meetings

Each meeting will have an agenda.

Items for each meeting's agenda will be chosen in accordance with the plan adopted by the EWADT.

Each meeting will have an agenda item for public comment.

At each meeting, a preliminary agenda for the next meeting will be developed.

The chairmen can revise the agenda and will distribute a revised agenda the day before each meeting.

At the beginning of each meeting the EWADT can revise the agenda.

During meetings, members of the EWADT will speak in the order recognized by the Chairmen.

However, if any member makes a proposal or recommendation, the order of speaking will be suspended, and that proposal or recommendation will be discussed until resolved or tabled for resolution later.